



Champlain Eagle

FLOTILLA 15-8
PLATTSBURGH, NY
DISTRICT 1SR



October 2012

Commander's Comments

Well October is almost over and I can't believe I put my boat up for the winter. We as a flotilla have had a very busy spring and summer this year. I guess time flies when you are having fun.

I just compiled a lot of statistics we have completed to submit us for the Flotilla of The Year Award. I don't know where we will stand in Division but we must be close to the top. I am very grateful for the support you have provided this year to make 1508 look good.

In addition we have completed a lot of training and certifications. I love passing out certificates and ribbons from DIRAUX. That shows that we do care and support our community in public education, patrols, Vessel Exames, Program Visitations and supporting the Coast Guard. Because of budget crunches coming in the next few years we will be tasked to provide more with less funds available. Our commitment is non-wavering and we will continue to make the Coast Guard proud of who we are and our accomplishments. Growth is also an important part of that commitment and I know you will continue to step up to the plate.

Thank you for all that you continue to do. Elections are coming up on November 8, please attend this important meeting and support our flotilla with your vote. Our Division Commander Gregg Trask will be at this meeting for the elections and to pass out an award for one member who just completed 40 years of service.



Carl Duford, Flotilla Commander



Member News



Peggy Burgess, FSO-IS, successfully completed the AUX 10 class for IS (Information Services) on Sept. 29 at Whitehall, NY. Left, she receives her certificate from instructor Lynn Glassman, DSO-IS. Other successful AUX 10 students from 15-8 were Ted Alwine and Frank Williams.

As FSO-IS, Burgess's primary job is to receive 7029 member activity forms and 7030 mission forms from 15-8 members and process them forward to AUXDATA. At right, she explains the how and why of the all-important 7029 to members at our last meeting.

To make that chore easier for all of us, she also gave this tip for posting the 7029 to your computer desktop for easy management:

“Here's a way to set up your 7029 form so that it is on your desktop, and all you have to do is click on the icon to open it and add information:

Go to cgaux.org (the homepage)

Along the top bar you will see an 'AUX MEMBERS' tab-- CLICK ON IT and it will open a menu.

In this menu you will see a '**7029 webform**' tab-- click on it and open that tab, it will take you to a page called '**Welcome to the 7029 Webform Home**'

Along the left side of this page is a tab called '**My Webforms Guide**'-- click on it and it will take you to 'The "My Webforms Guide' page.

FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS AND YOU SHOULD CREATE A LINK ON YOUR DESKTOP TO TAKE YOU DIRECTLY TO YOUR 7029 PAGE

JUST BY CLICKING ON THE ICON

JUST REMEMBER, AFTER ENTERING ANY INFORMATION, YOU HAVE TO SAVE THE PAGE EVERY TIME BEFORE YOU CLOSE IT.

If you have any questions or you need help with anything email me at cgapeggy@gmail.com .



We held our last ABS class on Oct. 3-4 at the S. Plattsburgh Fire Department. Six students were passed (three of them new 15-8 members) bringing our total to 55 students for the year. Instructors were Frank Williams (right), Bob Shivokevich, Carl Duford and Peggy Burgess.

Dues Are Due

Our annual membership dues are due by November. They are \$30 per member. You may present them in person to our finance officer, Hugh Connors, FSO-FN, or mail him a check made out to CG-AUX 1508. His address is Hugh Connors, 857 Military Turnpike, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. If you have any questions, contact him by email at lonesail@charter.net.



Heather Stewart (far right), Operations Manager for the Lake Champlain Transportation Co., Burlington, was guest speaker Oct. 21 at the Champlain Sail & Power Squadron's annual "Hauling Out" dinner meeting. About half of those in attendance were also members of the Auxiliary.

Stewart related the history of LCT (originally the Champlain Transportation Co. in 1825 to the current Lake Champlain Transportation Co. established in 1948). LCT currently operates 13 ferries on the lake and has a staff of 36 captains on rotational duty. She said the company also has an ongoing recruitment program for local young people to pursue a career as a ferry captain.

Election Notice:

Carl Duford, FC, Flotilla 15-8, has appointed an Election Committee to review and propose nominations for Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander for 2013. The committee members are Don Craig, chairman, Bob Shivokevich and Ted Alwine.

According to the Auxiliary Flotilla Procedures Manual:
"Each year, after the Division elections and before Dec. 15, the

flotilla elects the next Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander."

This is usually done at our November flotilla meeting. Election procedures will follow the flotilla's standing rules.

Anyone interested in either of these offices should send a letter of intent and a resume of qualifications to the election committee chairman (dcraig@westelcom.com) . The list of required qualifications can be found in Appendix C. Election Eligibility, Auxiliary Manual COMDTINST 16790.1G:

http://documents.cgaux.org/temp/Auxiliary-Manual-CIM16790_1.pdf



Boat Electronics and Engine Maintenance

The Champlain Sail & Power Squadron, Plattsburgh, is offering two courses this fall and winter, one on boat electronics, the other on engine mechanics. Since there is a big membership cross-over between our local Auxiliary flotilla and the Power Squadron, the CSPA is offering these courses to 15-8 members at the same fee. Here's the information from Bob Shivokevich, FSO-PE and Power Squadron member:

"The Champlain Sail and Power Squadron will be offering the USPS Marine Electronics course this fall. Starting hopefully by the end of September or early October, day and time to be determined. . The course is broken down into three modules: Boat Electrical Systems, Marine Radio Communications and Marine Electronics for Navigation. The instructor is Mike Stephenson, 15-2.

“The course cost for all three parts is \$45.00 (Just the cost of the book). If you only want to take the First two sections (Modules ME 101 and ME 102 the cost is \$30.00 Module ME 103 is \$30,00 so all three for \$45.00 is a bargain) I need to order the manuals so we can start on time. If you are in interested in taking the course please reply to me via email (rshivokevich@yahoo.com) so I can get an accurate count.”

The Engine Maintenance course will be offered in late winter or early spring by instructor Frank Williams, FSO-OP 15-8 who also is a professional engine mechanic:

“The new Engine Maintenance course 2011 has been put into one ten chapter course that stresses the diagnosis of modern systems, while also teaching the basics of engine layout and operation. Gasoline inboards, outboards, and diesel engines are taught in a way that reinforces the common aspects of how engines work. This new course is complete in one book with one exam.”

For more information, contact Bob Shivokevich, FSO-PE, at rshivokevich@yahoo.com.

Expanded Boating Course

Another from Bob Shivokevich, FSO-PE: “Many of you first joined the Flotilla after taking the ABS (About Boating Safely) Class. As you will remember that was an eight hour class probably broken down into 2 four hour sections.

“We covered a lot of material in that short period of time and then tested. This course did not leave much time for discussion and expansion of the course material.

“After getting some feedback from the students, Member Training Officer Peggy Burgess and I talked about trying to offer a way of expanding on that material. The Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a course called Basic Boating and Seamanship.

“This course is a 14 week course that expands on all the material covered in the ABS class and MORE. The class would meet one day a week for about 2 hours. This will give us the chance to expand on the material, and give you the chance of more discussion. In order to offer this class I would need to know who would be interested in taking this course. I need to have enough students, to make sure the Course books are available. If you are interested in taking the class or have any questions please contact me.”

Bob Shivokevich, FSO-PE rshivokevich@yahoo.com 518-493-7251

Favorite Website: Safe Navigation Alliance

From time to time we run across a free website on the internet that is just so good we have to share it. However, we will not list anything here that requires a digital download or payment of money.

This was submitted by Thomas Nunes, Auxiliary Public Affairs Director:

WASHINGTON - The Coast Guard Auxiliary has joined forces with the Alliance for Safe Navigation to inform boaters of the importance of maintaining current navigation information. Alliance members include the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), BoatUS, Jeppesen Marine, the U.S. Power Squadron, OceanGrafix, and the Sea Tow Foundation for Boating Safety and Education.

Surveys have revealed that most boaters are not concerned about the accuracy of their charts and related navigation information. More than three quarters do not pay attention to local notice to mariners issued by the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard Auxiliary will utilize its Alliance partnership to promote boating safety.

For more information concerning the Alliance, see www.allianceforsafenavigation.org.

Refreshment Schedule For Monthly Meetings

November	Ted Alwine & Stephanie Lago
December	Change of Watch dinner meeting

Coming Events

8 November, monthly Flotilla meeting and election for FC and VFC, South Plattsburgh Fire Department.

18 November, Division Change Of Watch.

13 December, Flotilla 15-8 Change Of Watch and dinner meeting, Anthony's Restaurant, Plattsburgh.

Flotilla 15-8 Staff Officers for 2012

Carl Duford, Flotilla Commander, Human Resources and Materials.

Charles Schenk III, Vice Flotilla Commander.

Frank Williams, Immediate Past Flotilla Commander, Operations.

Ted Alwine, Vessel Exams.

Margaret Peggy Burgess, Member Training and Information Systems.

Hugh Conners, Finance and Communications.

Don Craig, Publications and Public Affairs.

Lois Duford, Secretary/Records.

John Meredith, Program Visitor.

Aline Pepe, Marine Safety/Environmental Protection.

Mike Ratner, Computer Services.

Robert Shivokevich, Public Education.

Angelique Zarembo-Woodward, Diversity and Inclusion.

Scott Zarembo-Woodward, Navigation Systems.

Another picture too good to pass up:



The space shuttle Atlantis hooking a ride on a 747 from Columbus AFB, MS, to the Kennedy Space Center, FL, after a repair mission on the Hubble Telescope. American aviation at its best.

Champlain Eagle editor: Don Craig, FSO-PB
dcraig@westelcom.com.

Photo credits: Don Craig and Frank Williams.

We welcome news articles and photographs relating to Flotilla 15-8 from all of our members.

Please visit our website at <http://wwgaux15-8.org/> for back editions of the Champlain Eagle.

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Bluff Point Lighthouse, Valcour Island